

CPYRGHT

#A491SK Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-00001R000400460051-8

NIGHT LEAD PLANE CRASH (400)

RIGGINS, IDAHO, SEPT. 24 (AP)-THE BODIES OF FIVE MEN--INCLUDING GEORGE SKAKEL JR., BROTHER OF MRS. ROBERT F. KENNEDY--WERE TAKEN TODAY FROM THE WRECKAGE OF A PLANE WHICH CRASHED IN THE CENTRAL IDAHO PRIMITIVE AREA.

THE FIVE, MEMBERS OF A 20-MAN ELK HUNTING PARTY, ALSO INCLUDED DEAN F. MARKHAM OF MCLEAN, VA., A CLOSE FRIEND OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, D-NY.

THE OTHERS KILLED WERE LOUIS WERNER II, AN INVESTOR AND MEMBER OF A PROMINENT ST. LOUIS FAMILY; EARL RANFT, PRESIDENT OF THE DABAR HAULAGE CO., 91

OF A PROMINENT ST. LOUIS FAMILY; EARL RANFT, PRESIDENT OF THE DABAR HAULAGE CO., OF BAYONNE, N.J., AND THE PILOT, DONALD ADAMS, OF MOUNTAIN HOME AIR FORCE BASE IN IDAHO.

SKAKEL, OF GREENWICH, CONN., WAS PRESIDENT OF THE GREAT LAKES CARBON CORP. OF NEW YORK, WHICH HAS HOLDINGS IN SOUTHWEST IDAHO. MARKHAM WAS IN CHARGE OF GREAT LAKES' WASHINGTON OFFICE.

THE FIVE WERE KILLED LATE YESTERDAY WHEN THEIR PLANE, LOADED WITH HUNTING GEAR, OVERSHOT AN AIRSTRIIP DEEP IN THE SALMON RIVER GORGE 40 MILES EAST OF RIGGINS. IDAHO AERONAUTICS DIRECTOR CHET MOULTON SAID THE PILOT APPARENTLY TRIED TO MAKE A CLIMBING TURN IN A STEEP CANYON.

THE FIVE WERE IN ONE OF SEVERAL PLANES CARRYING THE HUNTING PARTY FROM SEVERAL EASTERN STATES AND CALIFORNIA INTO THE SHEPP GUEST RANCH OFF THE SALMON RIVER, NEAR CROOKED RIVER.

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THE BODIES WERE TAKEN BY HELICOPTER TO AN AIRSTRIIP DOWNSTREAM WHERE AN AMBULANCE WAITED TO RETURN THEM TO BOISE. A GREAT LAKES CARBON CORP. PLANE THAT BROUGHT MANY OF THE PARTY TO BOISE FROM NEW YORK CITY YESTERDAY WAS TO RETURN THE BODIES TO THE EAST.

SEN. KENNEDY CANCELED A WEEKEND POLITICAL TOUR IN NEW ENGLAND BECAUSE OF THE DEATH OF HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW.

DURING THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, MARKHAM SERVED ON THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMISSION ON NARCOTICS AND DRUG ABUSE.

WERNER WAS ON THE BOARD OF MERCANTILE TRUST, LARGE ST. LOUIS BANK.

THE CRASH WAS IN THE SAME PRIMITIVE AREA, BUT ABOUT 50 MILES TO THE WEST, OF THE MIDDLE FORK OF THE SALMON RIVER, WHERE THE ROBERT KENNEDY FAMILY VACATIONED THIS SUMMER.

THE PARENTS OF ETHEL KENNEDY AND GEORGE SKAKEL WERE KILLED IN AN AIRPLANE CRASH IN OKLAHOMA IN 1955.

TWO MEMBERS OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY ALSO DIED IN AIR ACCIDENTS. ANOTHER, SEN. EDWARD M. KENNEDY, D-MASS., SUFFERED A FRACTURED SPINE IN A LIGHT PLANE CRASH IN MASSACHUSETTS IN JUNE 1964.

HIS OLDEST BROTHER, NAVY LT. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY JR., 29, WAS LOST ON A WARTIME BOMBING MISSION FROM ENGLAND IN 1944. FOUR YEARS LATER HIS SISTER KATHLEEN WAS KILLED IN A FRENCH PLANE CRASH AT THE AGE OF 28.

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